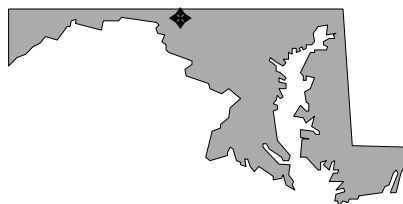


Size: 1,374 acres
Mission: Supported Site R underground facility
HRS Score: NA
IAG Status: None
Contaminants: UXO, heavy metals, and asbestos
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$0.4 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$0
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: NA



Fort Ritchie, Maryland

Restoration Background

In July 1995, the BRAC Commission recommended that Fort Ritchie be closed. The installation closed on September 30, 1998.

Environmental contamination at Fort Ritchie resulted from underground storage tanks (USTs), a mortar firing range, and a skeet range. The closed mortar range may contain unexploded ordnance (UXO). Housing units and administrative buildings contain asbestos and lead-based paint.

Interim Actions to date include removal or replacement of all USTs, relining of sewer lines with plastic, removal of falling lead paint and high-hazard friable asbestos, and closure of an incinerator. The Army also cleaned up a gasoline spill in FY92.

The installation developed a positive working relationship with state and local officials. Measures to improve the decision-making process and communication at the installation include forming a planning group, conducting meetings at the town hall, conducting quarterly in-progress reviews, establishing hot lines to answer employee questions, and relaying installation updates to the local news media.

In FY96, the Army formed a BRAC cleanup team to investigate and ensure cleanup of all areas of concern and allow transfer of all BRAC parcels. The commander also formed a Restoration Advisory Board. Also in FY96, the Environmental Baseline Survey and the BRAC Cleanup Plan (BCP), Version 1, were completed. The installation's supporting U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) District negotiated a Total Environmental Restoration Contract for all restoration work. Work began on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the draft report on the archive search for UXO. In addition, the installation developed a partnership with the Local Redevelopment Authority.

In FY97, the installation completed the UXO archive search with the help of USACE St. Louis District. The installation initiated hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW) and UXO sampling. It also completed draft BCP Version 2 and a draft EIS.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation completed a revised draft Site Inspection report and the BCP Version 2. It also completed UXO sampling, the UXO interim characterization report, and additional HTRW sampling. In addition, the installation signed a programmatic agreement for historic district preservation and completed the EIS and the ROD.

Plan of Action

- Conduct HTRW sampling as required by the Maryland Department of the Environment and EPA in FY99
- Complete Focused Feasibility Studies for various HTRW sites in FY99
- Publish draft ordnance and explosives Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis for public input in FY99
- Expedite cleanup and property availability, lease, and transfer in FY99

SITES ACHIEVING RIP OR RC PER FISCAL YEAR

*Fort Ritchie has no environmental restoration activities. All environmental compliance activities are scheduled for completion by FY2002.